

Town of Moretown
Office of the SELECT BOARD

Draft – unapproved minutes of the 12/10/12 selectboard meeting minutes

Selectboard members present: Clark Amadon, Tom Martin, Michelle Beard, John Hoogenboom, Reed Korrow arrived at 6:25

Guests included: Charles Merriman from Tarrant Marks & Gillies, Cheryl Brown as assistant to the board

Tom called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

The board and its attorney Charles Merriman reviewed testimony relating to Edward Buttolph's petition that the selectboard lay out a temporary logging road across the lands of Linda Vantine. Discussion included:

- The petitioner failed to show where on his land he could not skid logs. No topography map was submitted into evidence showing the lay of the land.
- The petitioner did not submit financial evidence as to what the value of the timber is that he wants to harvest, versus the cost to remove the timber by using his own property to skid them out.
- No matter which property he uses to skid the logs, the petitioner will incur costs to build or improve a road.
- The petitioner was aware of the access risk prior to purchasing the property.
- The property has been logged before.
- It is possible the Vantine's water supply could be compromised by the logging.
- Consideration of loaded log trucks (weighting in excess of 90,000#) using Longley Road and that the steepness of the road in a couple of places, one being as you leave the class 4 road section; the second being as you enter on Route 100B.
- The petitioner had an Agreement with Vantine prior, but failed to complete the logging in part, because the logger was on another job for the petitioner.
- Public good would benefit by the harvest of the logs.

Discussion followed that the burden of proof for the "necessity" for using Vantine's land, falls on Buttolph and that it is difficult to determine a negative impact without having financial information about the value/tally of timber being harvested versus the cost to build a road.

Draft – unapproved minutes of the 12/10/12 selectboard meeting

2012 budget work - commenced.

- Each department budget was reviewed again and most were approved for final critic once the final draft has been done.
- \$12,000 was added into the town office budget for site planning, studies etc.
- A survey of Town Clerk and Town Treasurer pay will be done

The next budget work will be on the pay and health insurance.

Meeting adjourned at 8/:15 p.m.